

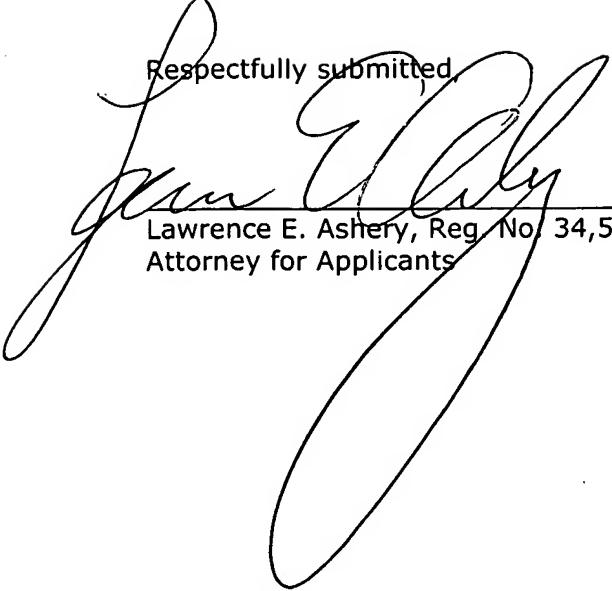
**Amendment to the Abstract:**

The Abstract has been amended. A revised Abstract is attached.

A router device {10}-includes a VRRP (Virtual Redundancy Router Protocol) realizing a virtual router device for operating a plurality of router devices virtually as one router device. The router device {10}-further includes a virtual router processing section {15}-for executing virtual router processing and a virtual router information processing section {14}-for extracting virtual router information upon reception of a virtual router information message and performing setting necessary for operation as a virtual router. When performing a new connection to a local area network, the virtual router information can be automatically set. Thus, it is possible to significantly reduce the load required for building a virtual router system by manual setting conventionally performed by a management operator.

Attachment

Respectfully submitted,

  
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LEA/dlm

Attachment: Abstract

Dated: April 20, 2005

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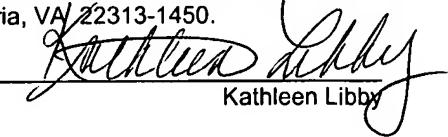
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Kathleen Libby

## **ABSTRACT**

A router device includes a VRRP (Virtual Redundancy Router Protocol) realizing a virtual router device for operating a plurality of router devices virtually as one router device. The router device further includes a virtual router processing section for executing virtual router processing and a virtual router information processing section for extracting virtual router information upon reception of a virtual router information message and performing setting necessary for operation as a virtual router. When performing a new connection to a local area network, the virtual router information can be automatically set. Thus, it is possible to significantly reduce the load required for building a virtual router system by manual setting conventionally performed by a management operator.